Appointment of Lok Pal

*55. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has received a letter from the Lok Sevak Sangh of Servants of People Society, New Delhi, demanding immediate appointment of Lok Pal, disqualification of candidates with corrupt and criminal antecedents, and forfeiture of illegally acquired property of public servants including Ministers, MPs and MLAs;

(b) whether the Second Administrative Reforms Commission in its fourth Report, has also supported the above mentioned three demands; and

(c) if so, the time Government is likely to take to come forward with a legislation on Lok Pal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is the endeavour of the Government to introduce in Parliament the Lokpal Bill which is in the advanced stage of finalization

Protest by Chinese Government

*56. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chinese Government has lodged an informal protest over the Indian Prime Minister's visit to Arunachal Pradesh, recently;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government of China is still considering Arunachal Pradesh as their part;

(d) if so, whether Government has taken up/propose to take up the issue with the Chinese Government for an amicable solution; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) Chinese side has raised the matter of Prime Minister's visit to Arunachal Pradesh with Government. The fact that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India has been conveyed to the Chinese side. China disputes the international boundary between India and China and illegally claims approximately 90,000 square kilometres of Indian territory in the State of Arunachal Pradesh. The Special Representatives of India and China are discussing a framework for settlement of the boundary question that is fair, reasonable, mutually acceptable, and based on the Agreement on Guiding Principles and Political Parameters signed in April 2005.

Shortage of houses

*57. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of twenty-five million houses in the urban areas of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the estimated shortage of dwelling units in the next year is likely to be far greater than the shortage, the country would face during the Eleventh Plan period;